

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MONROV 03108 01 OF 02 041232Z

44

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SAM-01 SP-02 /033 W

----- 047125

O 041130Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0055

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MONROVIA 3108

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S REMARKS AT APRIL 30 DINNER HONORING
SECRETARY KISSINGER

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S REMARKS AT APRIL 30 DINNER
HONORING SECRETARY KISSINGER:

BEGIN TEXT: DISTINGUISHED OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT, LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, FRIENDS:

TONIGHT, IN THE TRUE SPIRIT AND TRADITION OF LIBERIAN HOSPITALITY,
IT IS OUR DISTINCT PLEASURE TO WELCOME TO OUR COUNTRY, AN ERUDITE
HISTORIAN, EMINENT SCHOLAR, AND WORLD STATESMAN, THE DISTINGUISHED
SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: DR. HENRY
KISSINGER.

DR. KISSINGER'S VISIT TO LIBERIA, THOUGH ALTOGETHER TOO BRIEF,
HAPPILY COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS CELE-
BRATING ITS BICENTENNIAL AND PREPARING TO MAKE ITS ENTRY, WITH
GREATER CONFIDENCE AND STRENGTH, INTO THE THIRD CENTURY OF NATIONAL
INDEPENDENCE. HIS VISIT IS EQUALLY REMARKABLE BECAUSE IT OCCURS
AT A TIME WHEN AMERICANS ARE BUSILY ENGAGED IN EXERCISING THEIR
FREEDOM OF CHOICE, A RIGHT DEFIANTLY DENIED OUR OPPRESSED
BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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PAGE 02 MONROV 03108 01 OF 02 041232Z

INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY, THESE COINCIDENCES VERILY REMIND US THAT THE UNITED STATES SHARES WITH OTHER NATIONS LIKE OUR OWN AN INVARIABLE COMMITMENT TO THE IDEALS OF PEACE AND FREEDOM, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN DIGNITY, AS ENSHRINED IN ITS DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, ITS CONSTITUTION AND BILL OF RIGHTS. INTIMATELY LINKED AS WE ARE TO THE AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC EXPERIENCE, WE EXTEND, EVEN AT THIS TIME, TO ITS PEOPLE AND NATION OUR SINCERE AND JOYFUL CONGRATULATIONS ON HAVING ACHIEVED ANOTHER CENTENNIAL MILESTONE.

AS THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA ILLUMINATE A SYMBOLIC THIRD LANTERN AT THE HISTORIC OLD NORTH CHURCH IN BOSTON, WE IN LIBERIA CANNOT REFRAIN FROM RECALLING THE PECULIAR BUT SOLID CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY PEOPLE FROM OUR SHORES, OUR CONTINENT AND THOSE OF OUR RACE AND COLOR IN BUILDING THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTO THE GREAT NATION IT IS TODAY. LIKEWISE, IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR, WE CAN WARMLY REFLECT UPON THE HISTORIC EVENTS LEADING TO THE BIRTH OF OUR OWN NATION—EVENTS IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS ENACTED DECISIVE LEADERSHIP ROLES IN ASSISTING THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF LIBERIA—THOSE WHO CAME AND THOSE WHOM THEY MET—TO OBTAIN A NEW LIFE ON THIS CONTINENT, FREE FROM BONDAGE AND OPPRESSION.

IT SEEMS OF MOMENTOUS, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, MR. SECRETARY, THAT YOU SHOW NOW VISIT THIS NATION AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING AND MOST SUCCESSFUL SYMBOLS OF DEMOCRACY. WE THEREFORE WELCOME YOU IN OUR MIDST.

YOU HAVE COME HERE WHEN THE SEARCHING SPOTLIGHTS OF OUR TIMES ARE FOCUSING THE BURNING ASPIRATIONS ACROSS THE GLOBE, NOT ONLY OF PEOPLES IN THIRD-WORLD NATIONS BUT ALSO OF GROUPS HOLDING THIRD-WORLD STATUS. OUT OF THE DOLDRUMS OF CONTEMPT AND NEGLECT, THEY ARE SEIZING THEIR GOD-GIVEN RIGHTS. FROM UNDER THE ANVIL OF AGE-OLD OPPRESSIONS, THEY ARE REACHING FORTH FOR HUMAN DIGNITY. THEY STRUGGLE FOR A MORE EQUITABLY STRUCTURED WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER BENEATH THE REGRESSIVE COLONIAL BLANKET OF GROSS IMBALANCE.

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PAGE 03 MONROV 03108 01 OF 02 041232Z

POLITICAL ENSLAVEMENT AND ECONOMIC IMPOVERISHMENT, THE WORLD'S HERITAGE OF FREEDOM IS LEFT TO FORTUITY; ITS BLESSINGS OF FRIENDSHIP CAST TO FATE. JUSTICE FOR ALL SEEMS DROWNED IN CHAOS, AND MANKIND'S MAJORITY ABANDONED TO MISERY AND MALIGNANCY.

AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE OF MANKIND SEEMS UPON US. HUMAN JUDGEMENTS REMAIN AS AMBIVALENT AS THE DISTORTED STRUCTURE OF TRADE. HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS DECLINE WITH THE EBB-TIDE OF

INTERNATIONAL AID. THE FEVER OF HUMAN ACRIMONY RISES TO THE PITCH OF THE FIRES OF INFLATION. HUMAN VALUES FLUCTUATE WITH THE FLUIDITY OF NATIONAL CURRENCIES. AND THE SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION WHICH OUR ONE WORLD HAD SO HOPEFULLY ANTICIPATED, SEEMS REPLACED BY THE FACT OF POTENTIAL CONFRONTATION.

THESE ARE DISTRESSING CONDITIONS. THESE ARE CHALLENGING TIMES, AND IN MANY RESPECTS, THESE INDEED ARE CRUCIAL MOMENTS*

IN LIBERIA WE HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION. OUR VISION OF A HUMANE AND MORE PROSPEROUS WORLD IMPELS US ACCORDINGLY TO WAGE A RELENTLESS WAR ON TWO FRONTS-A CAMPAIGN DESIGNED TO RID THE AFRICAN CONTINENT OF THE LAST VESTIGES OF COLONIALISM, ILLEGAL MINORITY RULE, RACIAL AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF OPPRESSION, AND TO CONQUER MAN'S ETERNAL ENEMIES OF IGNORANCE, DISEASE AND POVERTY.

FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY REMAIN THE TWIN-PILLARS OF LIBERIA'S FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES. THEY CONSTITUTE THE RATIONALE AND CONTEXT WITHIN WHICH WE BASE OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER NATIONS. INDEED, WE CONSTANTLY POSE THE POIGNANT INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER THOSE NATIONS CAN TRULY BE OUR FRIENDS WHICH ALONG WITH US AS ALLIES, DO NOT ALSO FIGHT OUR DOMESTIC ENEMIES OF IMPOVERISHMENT;BUT EVEN OPPOSE OUR FOREIGN COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF TOTAL AFRICAN LIBERATION AND ECONOMIC SELF-EMANCIPATION.

I AM REMINDED OF THE STORY TOLD OF A MAN WHO HAD THE SPECIAL MISFORTUNE OF FALLING AMONG HIGHWAY THIEVES AND ROBBERS. HE WAS WOUNDED, DISPOSSED OF EVEN HIS CLOTHING, AND FINALLY LEFT FOR DEAD.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, A LEADER OF THE CHURCH TRAVERSED THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 MONROV 03108 01 OF 02 041232Z

HIGHWAY, OBSERVED THE DESPERATE PLIGHT OF THE MAN, AND TOTALLY AVOIDED HIM. SOON, A LEADER OF A HIGH-CLASS SECT CAME UPON THIS SIGH OF DESTITUTION, MORE CLOSELY OBSERVED THE WOUNDED, AND THEN TOOK THE FURTHERMOST DISTANCE IN AVOIDING HIM.

IN ITS UPLIFTING CONCLUSION, THE STORY RELATES THAT IT TOOK A MAN OUTCLASSED BY ALL SOCIETY AND OUTCAST BY SOME SOCIETIES, TO VEER FROM THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF HIS JOURNEY, TO VIEW THE DISTRESSED WITH HELPFUL EMPATHY, TO ADMINISTER UNTO HIM THE OIL OF COMPASSIONATE CONCERN, AND, AT HIS OWN EXPENSE, TO PLACE THE FUTURE OF THE NEEDY INTO RESPONSIBLE KEEPING AND CARE.

WE ARE THEREFORE HEARTENED BY RECENT PRONOUNCEMENTS OF OUR ESTEEMED FRIEND, PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD, REGARDING

AMERICA'S POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION AND
POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE, ESPECIALLY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA; AND
HIGHLIGHTING YOUR COUNTRY'S PLEDGE TO GIVE FULLER SUPPORT TO
THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF AFRICAN NATIONS.

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PAGE 01 MONROV 03108 02 OF 02 041244Z

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SAM-01 SP-02 /033 W

----- 047308

O 041130Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0056

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MONROVIA 3108

FOR THE SECRETARY

WE ARE GRATIFIED ESPECIALLY BY YOUR MEETINGS WITH OUR
DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUES AND BROTHERS AND BY THE DEEPER MEASURE
OF YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA YOU
HAV THEREBY ACHIEVED.

WE ARE STRENGTHENED BY THE CONCRETE INDICATIONS AND BY
YOUR UNEQUIVOCAL PRONOUNCEMENTS OF AMERICAN CONCERN AND SUPPORT
FOR AFRICAN ASPIRATIONS. AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT YOUR PARTICIPA-
TION AT THE FORTHCOMING UNCTAD CONFERENCE IN ANRIBOI WILL GIVE
NEW FORM AND SUBSTANCE TO AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO A BRAVE NEW
WORLD WHEREIN AFRICA WILL EQUALLY SHARE THE FRUITS OF PEACE AND
PLENTY FOR ALL.

YOUR ASSURANCES ACCORD WITH OUR OWN WELL-KEPT PRIORITIES,
NOT INFREQUENTLY DECLARED.

FROM ITS INCIPIENCY, THE LIBERIAN NATION HAS STOOD FEAR-
LESSLY AND UNSWERVINGLY WITH FAITH IN THE SAME DEMOCRATIC IDEALS
WHICH LED TO THE FOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN NATION. WE HAVE HELD
ALOFT THE TORCH OF LIBERTY, DEMOCRACY AND AFRICAN COMPETENCY,
PRESAGING THE AGE OF INDEPENENDECE AND NATIONHOOD ON THIS

CONTINENT.

WE VERILY DO NOT BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE COME SO FAR UNDER
THE STRAIN OF TRAVEL SIMPLY TO UTTER HOLLOW PROMISES, BUT RATHER
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PAGE 02 MONROV 03108 02 OF 02 041244Z

TO BRING TO AFRICAN PEOPLES AND NATIONS THE FORCE OF GENUINE
CONCERN AND MUTUALLY PRODUCTIVE FRIENDSHIP PERHAPS TOO LONG
WITHHELD. WE BELIEVE THAT YOUR MISSION HERE IS NOT MERELY TO
OBSERVE AT FIRST HAND THE UGLY SKETCHES OF DESPERATION AND
DEJECTION OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLES, BUT TO ACT EFFECTIVELY IN
CONVINCING ASPIRANT AFRICAN NATIONS THAT THE FREE, THOUGH
MATERIALLY WEAK AND FORLORN HAS HIS ASSERTIVE PLACE IN THE
COSMIC ECONOMY; THAT THE DISTANTLY REMOTE HAS A CLAIM ON HUMAN
FRATERNITY; AND THAT THE TRULY MIGHTY, SHOULD ACT WITH GRACE
AND MAJESTY.

R. SECRETARY, WE WOULD BE TERRIBLY DISAPPOINTED IF,
POSITIVE ACTIONS, CHARACTERIZED BY CONSISTENT DEEDS, WOULD NOT
BE CONCURRENT WITH YOUR HEARTENING PRONOUNCEMENTS.

WE ACCORDINGLY VIEW YOUR CURRENT VISIT LESS AS AN EMPTY
MANIFESTATION OF FRIENDSHIP THAN A RIPENED OPPORTUNITY FOR
THE DEMONSTRATION OF FIDELITY-FIDELITY TO THE SUPREME AND
EMULATIVE VALUE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN DIGNITY; FIDELITY
TO THE JUST ENTITLEMENTS OF MANKIND EVERYWHERE AND TO THE
GREATER WORLD SOCIETY OF THE FUTURE.

THAT FUTURE WORLD CAN CERTAINLY BENEFIT TODAY FROM A
NEW SENSE OF MORAL PURPOSE AND A NEW STYLE OF RESPONSIBLE
LEADERSHIP.

THE BRIGHTEST OUTLOOK OF AFRICAN PEOPLES AND LEADERS
HAVE BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC CONCERNING THE IDEALS OF LIBERTY, FREEDOM
AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING. THEY HAVE CONTINUINGLY SOUGHT TO
SELECT THE METHODOLOGY AND ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY THEIR RESPECTIVE
NATIONS CAN EVOLVE A POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE PECULIAR
TO THEIR OWN HISTORY AND DESTINY.

CONSISTENTLY, THEY HAVE REALIZED THAT PERSONAL VISITS
ALONE CAN NEVER ENSURE THE ADMIRATION AND CONFIDENCE OF THOSE
WHO FEEL ALIENATED. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THEIR DESPERATE
CONDITIONS, AFRICAN PEOPLES AND LEADERS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED
OUT OF ORDER WHEN THEY INSIST UPON DELIBERATE POSITIVE ACTIONS,
SO INDISPENSABLE FOR ACHIEVING THEIR DECLARED PRIORITY OF
URGENT DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION.

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PAGE 03 MONROV 03108 02 OF 02 041244Z

THEY ARE FULLY CONVINCED THAT MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE, PARTICULARLY BY THOSE NATIONS, SUCH AS YOURS, WHICH HAVE SO LONG STOOD UPON THE SACRED IDEALS OF WESTERN DEMOCRACY. AND AFRICAN PEOPLES HAVE REACHED THE INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION THAT THE NATIONS AND LEADERS OF THE WORLD MUST DEFINITELY ADOPT A MORE PRODUCTIVELY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS AFRICA'S RESOLUTE GOALS OF LIBERTY AND PROSPERITY.

MR. SECRETARY, MAY I WITH TIMELY EMPHASIS SAY THAT THE LEADERS AND PEOPLE OF AFRICA ARE NOW INSISTING THAT MR. IAN SMITH AND MR. JOHN VORSTER BE CONSISTENTLY TOLD IN ARTICULATELY CLEAR, UNEQUIVOCAL MANNER, AND APPROPRIATELY MADE TO REALIZE BY YOUR GREAT COUNTRY AND THEIR FRIENDS IN WHOM THEY PARTICULARLY TRUST, AND ON WHOM THEY RELY, THAT THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA MUST WITHOUT FURTHER DELAYS BE GIVEN TOTAL LIBERATION; AND AN END BE BROUGHT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS' ABNOXIOUS POLICIES AND DIABOLICAL OPPRESSION IN ALL FORMS, OF OUR AFRICAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, YEA CHILDREN OF OUR COMMON FATHER, WHO ARE ENTITLED TO ENJOY THEIR HUMAN DIGNITY, PEACE AND PROSPERITY AS ALL OTHERS OF GOD'S CHILDREN INHABITATING OUR ONE WORLD.

EVEN AS MILLIONS WELCOME DETENTE, MR. SECRETARY, THE MORE AFFLUENT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD DEVOTE ADDED BILLIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT. AS NATIONS STRIVE TO RETAIN THEIR HEGEMONY, THE MORE ASSERTIVE LEADERS MUST BY THEIR DEEDS INSPIRE IN OTHERS THE PASSION FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND HARMONY. WHERE HUMAN VALUE FLUCTUATE, STATESMEN OF THE WORLD IN THIS NEW ERA OF CAPTIVATING CHALLENGE, MUST RE-EVALUATE THEIR VALUES, RE-ASSESS THE GLOBAL REALITIES, AND TRANSMUTE THOSE REALITIES INTO HUMANE DEVELOPMENTAL FACILITIES.

WHEREVER STANDS THE POSITIVE PROMISE OF COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION WORLD LEADERS MUST GO FORTH WITH CONSTRUCTIVE INFLUENCES THAT WILL ASSIST IN THE EXECUTION OF SOBER JUDGMENTS.

EVER MINDFUL OF OUR MUTUAL COMMITMENT TO THE TRIUMPH OF LIBERTY, JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND HUMAN DIGNITY, LET US PLEDGE OURSELVES ANEW TO A COURSE OF CONCORDIAL RELATIONSHIP AND CONCRETE ACTION THAT WILL WIN, BOTH NOW AND FOR UNTOLD CENTENNIALS, THE ADMIRATION OF ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 MONROV 03108 02 OF 02 041244Z

REALIZING THERE ARE URGENT NEEDS YET TO BE MET AND BURSTING ASPIRATIONS STILL TO BE FULFILLED, LET US FERVENTLY RESOLVE TO MAKE HUMAN DIGNITY AND INTERNATIONAL PROSPERITY THE LAST SURETY OF OUR ONE WORLD. END TEXT.

THEN FOLLOWED A TOAST TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
CARTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MONROV03108
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760171-0309
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760594/aaaadcnb.tel
Line Count: 334
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by wolfsd>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S REMARKS AT APRIL 30 DINNER HONORING SECRETARY KISSINGER
TAGS: OVIP, PDIP, US, LI, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R)
To: NAIROBI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006